



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Liz Walsh, Chairperson

District 1

Opel Jones, Vice Chairperson

District 2

Christiana Rigby

District 3

Deb Jung

District 4

David Yungmann

District 5

Monthly Meeting Minutes (Approved)

Web-based Virtual Meeting

Video Streamed on <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Online-Tools/Watch-Us>

Monday, March 3, 2021

1:00 p.m.

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Liz Walsh, Chairperson; Opel Jones, Vice Chairperson; Deb Jung; Christiana Rigby; and David Yungmann.

Staff Present: Craig Glendenning, County Auditors; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Theo Wimberly, Administrative Manager; Margery Sayers, Executive Assistant

I. COVID Vaccine Distribution - Participants: Dr. Maura Rossman, Howard County Health Department.

Dr. Rossman opened the discussion by stating that COVID rates are stabilizing and that numbers are now similar to the November 2020 pre-holiday levels. Dr. Rossman went further to state that the current numbers are encouraging because they do not factor in the impact of the vaccination effort that is underway.

To date approximately 60,000 (or 25%) residents have received at least one vaccine dosage. Over the past few weeks there have been fewer people vaccinated by the Health Department. People have been getting vaccinated by other locations. Seniors, however, continue to be vaccinated by the Health Department.

Some additional issues that were discussed:

- Recent effort to have teachers receive the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.
- There was a discussion about the State and County's efforts to reach under-represented populations.
- There was a discussion surrounding the complications the one week use requirement.
- The impact of President Biden's call to have teachers vaccinated by April.
- The Howard County Health Department received 1700 Moderna vaccines and 400 Johnson and Johnson vaccination this week.

II. Racial Equity Task Force Update - Participants: Jessica Coates and Yvonne Commodore-Mensa.

The guests went over the Task Force's timeline to date. There was an update by Ms. Coates of the Education, Land Use, and Legislative Process subgroups. Ms. Mensa gave an update on the Economic Development, Personal and Public Safety, and Health and Environment subgroups.

The guests then informed the Council of the next steps for the task force which is to review and prioritize recommendations.

There was then a discussion about the social determinants in public health and how they interact with the built environment. Subsequently, the next discussion was about the importance of the Task Force not narrowing the scope of their recommendations.

II. Reports –

- a.** Chair provided report on upcoming events; work of staff
- b.** Councilmember Jones provided updates on MACo
- c.** Council Administrator and Auditor submitted written reports.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.